THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) INSAT-1D has a design life of seven years. Presently it is estimated that about 135 kg of propellant is left on-board. There was remarkable success in effecting fuel economy in the various steps for making the satellite finally operational. This leads to a life estimate of approximately 8½ years.

(c) INSAT-1D satellite is identical to INSAT-1B and the capacity for TV and Telecommunications is the same as that in INSAT-1B.

Development of INSAT-II series of satellites

3050. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress in the development of INSAT-II series of satellites;

(b) whether INSAT-II series will be launched into the orbit by Indian launchers;

(c) if so, what has been the progress in the development of rockets which would launch INSAT-II series of satellites;

(d) by when the first INSAT-II series satellite is likely to go into orbit;

(e) what is the capacity planned for the first INSAT-II satellite, as compared to INSAT-1B and INSAT-1D; and

(f) whether Government would consider hiring slots from Intelsat to augment satellite capacity in view of the delay which has occurred due to various reasons including INSAT-1C failure INSAT-1D delay and further delay in development of INSAT-II?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) The INSAT-II Test Spacecraft design and construction is now in its 65th month. INSAT-II Electrical Thermal model integration has been completed and integrated satellite tests are going on. The Structural Model has also been integrated and all the dynamic tests have been completed successfully Flight model units fabrication is progressing. Fabrication of Flight Model structure and other sub-systems is underway.

(b) The first two INSAT-II Satellites are scheduled to be launched by Ariane launchers (launch vehicles of Arianespace).

(c) The systems designs of Geosynchronous Satllite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) capable of launching gecstationary satellites have been completed. The GSLV-1 launcher capable of launching INSAT class of satellites into geostationary orbit is expected to be ready in four years after the approval of the project.

(d) The first of the INSAT-II satellites (INSAT-II A) is scheduled to be launched by end 1991.

(e) Each INSAT-II Satellite has 12 C-band transponders, 6 extended C-band transponders 2 S-band transponders. the meteorological payload and a Search & Rescue package as compared to 12 C-band transponders, 2 S-band transponders and meteorological payload in INSAT-1 series.

(f) The Department of Telecommunications has hired two transponders capacity from INTELSAT to augment the INSAT Satellite capacity. Government has also hired 12 C-band transponders from ARABSAT Organisation and these will be available till 30th September 1991.

Public Sector undertakings without regular Chief Executives

3051. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred

Question 2174 given in Rajya Sabha on 29th May, 1990 and state:

(a) what are the reasons for delay in filling posts of Chief Executives in 24 Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) how many of these posts which have since been filled up and those which still remain headless?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) It may be mentioned that the vacancies could not be filled due to certain reasons, which are, broadly, stated below:—

(i) Selection procedure which involves circulation of posts for suitable nominations, short-listing of candidates for interview by the PESB, furnishing of panels by PESB on the basis of interviews, vigilance clearance and verification of antecedents of the persons selected for appointment, performance based data of such persons and finally approval by the appropriate appointing authority;

(ii) Non-acceptance of panels recommended by the PESB leading to fresh selections;

(iii) Talent hunt which sometimes necessitates press advertisements;

(iv) Persons approved for appointment not taking up the assignments resulting in fresh selections;

(v) Proposal regarding extension of tenure of the present incumbents not acceptable to Government; and

(vi) Vacancies arising out of resignation or termination of services where action could be initiated only after issue of orders in this regard.

(b) As per available information, out of the 24 posts of Chief Executives in Public Sector Undertakings referred to in Question No. 2174 answered in Rajya Sabha on 29th May, 1990, six have since been filled up. The remaining 18 posts, which are still vacant, are indicated in the enclosed statement. (See below). It may, however, be added that usually, during the period of regular vacancies, interim arrangements are always made to ensure managerial control.

Appointments since approved by the Government but the persons have yet to join:

(1) CMD, Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited.

(2) MD, Pawan Hans Limited.

(3) MD, Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited.

Vacant

(1) MD, UP Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited.

(2) CMD, Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited.

(3) CMD, Cochin Shipyard Limited.

(4) CMD, Project & Development India Limited.

(5) CMD, Indian Airlines.

(6) MD, Tungabhadra Steel Products Limited.

(7) CMD, NTC (UP) Limited.

(8) CMD, NTC (MP) Limited.

(9) CMD, National Power Transmission Corporation.

(10) CMD, Semi-Conductor Complex Limited.

(11) MD, Tea Trading Corporaiton Limited.

(12) MD, Manipur Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Limited.

(13) MD, Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Limited.

(14) CMD, Indian Road Construction Corporation Limited.

(15) CMD, National Projects Construction Corporation Limited.

Cost of war between India and Pakistan

3052. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an estimate published in an American Magazine and quoted in the National Herald of June 11th, 1990 about the cost of a conventional war between India and Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government pursue their policy of peaceful relations with its neighbours, while maintaining full defence preparedness to counter any threat to the nation's security.

NAM Science and Technology Centre in New Delhi

3053. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the NAM Science and Technology Centre was established at New Delhi almost a year ago as reported in Financial Express dated 4th March, 1990;

(b) the number of NAM Countries which have joined the said centre and actually paid their dues so far;

(c) whether the progress made so far has been satisfactory; if not, the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken; and

(d) whether the Centre would be made fully operational and shortage of funds would not hamper its growth the third world and the NAM Countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes Sir, The Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries was established in New Delhi about a year and a half ago, with the convening of the first meeting of the Governing Council of the Centre in New Delhi in March 1989.

(b) 32 countries have so far joined the Centre. Full membership dues were paid by two countries in the year 1989-90 while during the current year (1990-91) full dues have so far been paid by one country and partial dues by another.

(c) and (d) The Centre is in its formative stage. While considering the complexities associated with organising a multilateral international forum of this nature, the progress can be considered satisfactory. However, in order to accelerate matters further, the Governing Council requested the Member Countries to make appropriate arrangements for transfer of funds for the payment of their membership dues to the accounts of the Centre, and stressed the importance of attention being focussed on specific time targeted programmes without the resources being spread too thin. The scope of the Centre's activities will grow with the increasing participation of the Member Countries. In this process, the cooperation of the Member Countries will be an essential consideration. In addition, other countries have been invited to join the Centre as its members. India as the host country is providing its share to set up and ensure the running of the Centre.

R and D work on dehydration of flowers by NBBI

3054. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be plea-